GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1237
ANSWERED ON:30.11.2005
UP GARADATION OF BLOCK DISTRICT LEVEL HOSPITALS
Saradgi Shri Iqbal Ahmed

Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has decided to focus on upgradation of block and district level hospitals;

(b) if so, whether the Government is also planning to launch a pilot project of universal health insurance in the country;

(c) if so, the amount allocated for improvement of health infrastructure in rural areas during the current year;

(d) the number of health centres in the country; and

(e) the extent to which these measures are likely to improve the health care in rural areas?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH & FAMILY WELFARE (SMT. PANABAKA LAKSHMI)

(a) Yes, Sir. The block level hospitals i.e. Community Health Centres (CHCs) are to be upgraded to Indian Public Health Standard (IPHS) under National Rural Health Mission. As far as upgradation of Distt. Level hospitals is concerned, State Health Systems Development Project with the World Bank assistance aimed at improving/upgrading secondary level health care facilities has been completed/under implementation in state of Andhra Pradesh, West Bengal, Karnataka, Punjab, Orissa, Maharashtra, UP., Uttaranchal, Rajasthan & Tamil Nadu.

(b) The Govt. is planning to make assured health care available at reduced financial risk through pilots of Community Health Insurance under NRHM in the country.

(c) Total amount of Rs.228.60 Crores has been released during 2005-06 for upgradation of Community Health Centres (CHCs) to IPHS, in the country.

(d) At present there are 142655 Sub-centres, 23109 Primary Health Centres and 3222 Community Health Centres, functioning in the country.

(e) These measures would provide quality health care services to the people in the rural areas, viable first referral mechanisms i.e. at the level of the community health centres, sub-divisional hospitals and district hospitals, improve the health status of the people, especially the poor and the under served and would improve efficiency in allocation and use of health resources through policy reform and institutional development.